

Testimony by Justin Johnson
Civil Technician for Richland County Water Resource District


To House Agriculture Committee
In Support of HB 1437

North Dakota Legislature
67th Legislative Assembly
Bismarck, North Dakota
February 4, 2021

Chairman Johnson, Vice-Chair Trottier, and Members of the Committee, I am writing in support of HB 1437 on behalf of the Richland County Water Resource District. HB 1437 is the result of Ellingson Companies, Representative Schreiber-Beck, and Water Resource District Representatives working together to make Subsurface Water Management permitting less cumbersome and to provide for a more timely approval process. We believe the current subsurface water management law that was implemented four years ago has created an unnecessary and unintended large workload for Water Resource District offices, Applicants, and also other county offices.

HB 1437 is a combined effort to streamline the application process for both the Water Resource Districts and the Applicants. Four years ago, the parties involved in writing HB 1437 were on opposing sides, but they came together and compromised to produce HB 1437. It was a long, well thought-out, process that took months and many meetings to complete.

I respectfully urge a Do Pass on HB 1437 and thank you for your time and consideration of our testimony.



Justin Johnson, Civil Technician
Richland County Water Resource District

We, Arv Burvee and Monica Zentgraf, fully support the above testimony and respectfully urge a Do Pass on HB 1437.



Arv Burvee, Chairman
Richland County Water Resource Board



Monica Zentgraf, Secretary-Treasurer
Richland County Water Resource District